topic will be treated in its general development, in which very interesting and very different phases appear in New England, in the Central Colonies, in Canada, and in the West Indies. It will then be possible, also, to emphasize more than is here attempted, the relation of the matter to the Revolution and to the political ideas of that time.

Finally, the author must express his very sincere thanks to all those who, in the north and in the south, in America and in England, have extended to him their kind assistance. If he ventures any specification, his gratitude is due pre-eminently to the members of the departments of historical and political science in the Johns Hopkins University and in Smith College; to the Maryland Historical Society—especially to its Assistant Librarian; and above all to his mother, without whose interest and help the work of investigation would have been impossible.